

Public Works Board

Sharing infrastructure-related news with Washington’s communities



A Message from the Executive Director

SPRING 2014

It gives me great pleasure to write this message to you as the new Executive Director of the Public Works Board. In the short time that I have been on board, we have reached out to our partners to strengthen our relationship and to begin working on common issues of concern. We will continue this work and our collaboration with local governments across Washington state.

I would like to welcome our newest Public Works Board members. They are already working very hard! At the recent Board retreat, it was very nice to get to know them, and their contributions were noticeable. And while funding was diverted from the Public Works Assistance Account this biennium, the Board and staff have been working very hard to implement changes to future funding rounds that were stipulated in this biennium’s state budget. Stay tuned for more information.

I look forward to working with you and invite you to look through our [website](#) to make use of the many resources. Please return frequently to see the new program offerings, capabilities and updates that we make on an ongoing basis. - Kendee Yamaguchi, Executive Director

Introducing our New Board Members

Mary Margaret Haugen
General Public

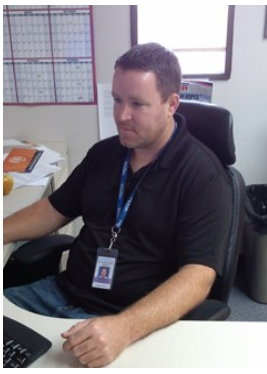
Diane Pottinger
North City Water
District Manager

Pam Carter
Valley View Sewer
District Commissioner

Ted Carlson
City of Bellingham
Public Works Director

Matthew Rasmussen
Franklin County
Engineer, Asst. Public
Works Director

Lisa Wellman
General Public



The [Public Works Board](#) is a 13-member Governor-appointed state policy board that provides financing and technical assistance to help local governments meet critical infrastructure needs that address public health, safety, and the environment. New board members, shown above, join existing board members Stan Finkelstein (Chair), JC Baldwin, Jerry Cummins, Ed Hildreth, Scott Hutsell and Mark Scott.

Public Works Board Policy Retreat

Board members convened on May 8th and 9th at Evergreen State College in Olympia to discuss and strategize on short –term and long –term impacts to the Public Works Assistance Account (PWAA). The PWAA is the state funding source that funds the Board’s programs. Over the two days, board members assessed the strengths and weaknesses of a variety of options. Members agreed to pursue a number of strategies, including:

- Addressing the need to ensure that the PWAA provides a consistent resource that local governments can depend on;
- Developing an educational program that provides information on the benefits of the PWAA;
- Working to increase and broaden stakeholder support of the PWAA and
- Continuing to work closely with the Governor, the Department of Commerce and its partner funding agencies.

Technical Assistance



LOTT’s Budd Inlet Treatment Plant Primary Sedimentation Basins

2016 PWB Construction Loan Application Update!

The Public Works Board received 90 construction loan applications requesting \$263.5 Million. These requests are leveraged with an additional \$332.6 Million in other funds.

Recognizing the importance of infrastructure financing, the Board is highlighting [LOTT](#)’s newly completed Budd Inlet Treatment Plant Primary Sedimentation Basins, financed by the Public Works Board and the Department of Ecology.

In Lincoln County, the Town of Almira’s water system improvement project is nearing completion. Funded by the Public Works Board, the project includes treatment, a reservoir, and renovations to other parts of the water system.

The Northeast Washington Local Government Academy, hosted by the Public Works Board and Community Economic Revitalization Board, took place on June 3rd in Spokane. Elected officials and staff from 70 local governments attended, representing cities, towns, counties, special taxing districts and tribes. The agenda focused on Alternative Funding Strategies, Reintroducing Salmon, Biomass to Energy, Toxics Clean-up, and Fostering a Prosperous Economy.

The attendees identified the following issues of significant concern to their jurisdictions: Unfunded Mandates; Fish Passages/ Hydraulic Project Approval; Road, Bridges and Dikes; Funding Surface and Storm Water; and Operator Succession Planning.

Planning is underway for an [academy](#) to be held in the Olympic Peninsula area in late summer.



Upcoming Conferences

The Infrastructure Assistance Coordinating Council (IACC) sponsors an annual statewide [conference](#) where state and federal programs assisting local governments and tribes with infrastructure needs convene to share information about their programs with local government representatives. Registration for this incredibly popular conference will be available July 28. The conference will be held September 30-October 2 in Wenatchee. For more information, contact [Betsy Gabel](#).

The Association of Washington Cities 2014 [conference](#) will be held June 17-20 in Spokane.

Funding Updates

- Department of Health Drinking Water State Revolving Fund and planning/pre-construction [funding](#)
- Community Development Block [Grant](#)
- Transportation Improvement Board funding [workshops](#)
- Recreation and Conservation Office [grants](#)
- Community Economic Revitalization Board [loan/grant](#)

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We welcome your input!

If you have feedback, questions, or concerns, please [email us](#), or call 360-725-3158.

